

CLAIMS

1. Injection-moulded plastic flange for mounting
5 accessories on a thermoplastic hollow body, capable of closing off, in a sealed manner, an opening cut into the wall of this hollow body, characterized in that the said flange has a thread on its periphery.
- 10 2. Flange according to the preceding claim, characterized in that it is capable of receiving a ring for holding its assembly with the hollow body in place.
- 15 3. Flange according to either of the preceding claims, characterized in that the plastic used to make it has a low permeability to gases and liquids.
- 20 4. Flange according to the preceding claim, characterized in that the plastic is selected from polyacetals, polyamides, polyesters and polyvinylidene halides.
- 25 5. Flange according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the hollow body is a fuel tank for a motor vehicle.
- 30 6. Flange according to the preceding claim, characterized in that mounted on it is at least one accessory of a fuel tank, chosen from a pump module, a volume gauge, a pipette connected to a line for the inflow or outflow of liquid and/or gaseous fuel, a connector and an electrical cable.
- 35 7. Flange according to either of Claims 5 and 6, characterized in that the fuel tank consists of at least two shells made of a multilayer thermoplastic, the shells being welded to one another.
8. Fuel tank for a motor vehicle, characterized in

that it comprises at least one accessory mounted on an accessory-mounting flange according to any one of Claims 5 to 7.

- 5 9. Tank according to the preceding claim,
characterized in that the impermeability to gases and
liquids is provided by the interposition of a
compressible seal between the flange and that wall of
the tank which is located near the opening, it being
10 possible for the seal to be held in the compressed
state by tightly screwing the ring onto the thread of
the flange.
10. Process for manufacturing a fuel tank that
15 includes a flange according to Claim 7 for mounting at
least one accessory, characterized in that the
following steps are carried out, in the order
indicated:
- 20 a) a seal is placed in a groove cut out around the
periphery of the flange and facing the wall of a shell,
around the perimeter of an opening cut into the latter;
- b) the flange is positioned over the opening, so
that the seal bears all around the perimeter of the
opening and so that the opening passes through the
25 threaded part of the flange;
- c) a ring is screwed onto the threaded part until
abutment, against the outer wall of the shell, of the
surface of the flange hugging the groove; and
- 30 d) the shell bearing the flange is welded to at
least one other shell so as to obtain a tank.